Prospective PhD Students to the SRCH Lab (PI: Olivia Atherton, PhD):
Here are some of the key areas I focus on when reviewing applications, and some examples of how you might demonstrate evidence for each of these key areas in your application materials. **Please note:** These are examples of evidence, NOT a list of requirements nor an exhaustive list of examples. I evaluate each application holistically, rather than focusing on any single criterion.

Criterion	Example(s) of Evidence
Research Interests: Has research interests in studying sociocultural contexts, self-regulation, personality, and/or health, broadly defined.	- Provides a compelling narrative of what topics they are interested in studying and how those research interests/questions intersect with the lab's **current** research interests. - Describes **_why_** they have an interest in studying these topics. - Describes **_why_** they are a good fit for my lab in particular. - Describes **_why_** they want to get a PhD (i.e., what career goal(s) does it serve)
Research Experience: Has research experience.	- Describes evidence of prior research experience in one (or more) of the lab's research areas, or related areas of psychological science - Research experience can be demonstrated through undergraduate research assistantships, post-bacc or summer programs, lab manager experience, Master's program, etc. - Describes evidence of prior **_independent_** research experience (e.g., honors capstone project, senior thesis, peer-reviewed publication) - Letter(s) of recommendation indicate the applicant has successfully contributed to, and/or independently led, research project(s)
Communication Skills: Has strong written and verbal communication skills.	- Provides evidence of written or verbal communication skills via statements, writing sample(s), prior record of publication, strong GRE Verbal or Writing scores, good grades in undergraduate or graduate level verbal courses, and/or research presentations in an academic or professional setting (e.g., poster). - Letter(s) of recommendation indicate the applicant has skills in written and/or verbal communication.
Quantitative Skills: Has interest and/or experience in learning and applying advanced quantitative techniques.	- Provides evidence of quantitative strengths via prior research experience or publication, good grades in undergraduate or graduate level statistics courses, and/or strong GRE Quantitative scores. - Describes interest and/or experience in statistics and coding. - Letter(s) of recommendation indicate the applicant has interest and/or experience in statistics.
Other Skills: Has demonstrated skills in critical thinking, problem solving, intellectual	Describes evidence of critical thinking, problem solving, intellectual curiosity, and perseverance in prior academic or professional settings.

curiosity, perseverance, creativity, working independently, and working collaboratively.	- Describes examples of prior experience working independently and as part of teams. - Overall undergraduate and/or graduate level GPA suggests they have successfully employed many of these skills to excel in their coursework. - Letter(s) of recommendation indicate the applicant has leadership capacities and is highly motivated, collaborative, hardworking, curious, a critical thinker, etc.